

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1685

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2007

PEOPLE JUDGE RATIO

Pingle Shri Devidas Anandrao;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao;Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment of people-judge ratio in the country;and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI K.VENKATAPATHY)

(a)&(b): The Law Commission in its 120th Report recommended that the present strength of 10.5 judges per one million population be increased to 50 judges per million population. The last Triennial Review of the Judge strength of the various High Courts was held in 2006. The data received from the High Courts for the triennial review of the judge strength of the High Courts has been analyzed and according to the guidelines fixed for the increase of the strength, only eight High Courts have qualified for increase in their Judge strength. With regard to subordinate judiciary, the Supreme Court, in its judgment of 21st March, 2002, in All India judges' Association & Ors Vs. Union of India & Ors, has directed that an increase in the Judge strength from the existing 10.5 or 13 per 10 lakh people to 50 judges per 10 lakh people should be effected and implemented within a period of five years in a phased manner to be determined and directed by the Union Ministry of Law. The Central Government have filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court praying that the increase in judge strength in the Union Territories for which Central Government is administratively responsible be allowed based on workload and pendency of cases. The matter is sub-judice.